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(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): **MAYO FOUNDATION FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION AND RESEARCH [US/US]**; 200 First Street S.W., Rochester, Minnesota 55905 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): **KUMAR, Rajiv** [US/US]; 2104 Baihly Hills Drive S.W., Rochester, Minnesota 55902 (US). **BERNDT, Theresa J.** [US/US]; 3021 Crescent Lane N.W., Rochester, Minnesota 55901 (US). **CRAIG, Theodore A.** [US/US]; 625 19th Street N.W., Unit 406, Rochester, Minnesota 55901 (US).

(74) Agents: **FINN, J. Patrick et al.**; Fish & Richardson, P.O. Box 1022, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55440-1022 (US).

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(54) Title: **FGF-23 POLYPEPTIDES**

(57) **Abstract:** This document relates to FGF-23 polypeptides, FGF-23 polypeptide fragments, and methods for making and using such polypeptides and polypeptide fragments. For example, FGF-23 polypeptide fragments that can be used to treat disorders associated with hyperphosphatemia such as chronic renal failure and hypoparathyroidism are provided.

## FGF-23 POLYPEPTIDES

### BACKGROUND

#### *1. Technical Field*

5 This document relates to FGF-23 polypeptides, polypeptide fragments of FGF-23 polypeptides, and methods for making and using such polypeptides and polypeptide fragments.

#### *2. Background Information*

10 Fibroblast growth factors (FGFs) are involved in many biological processes including embryonic development and cellular homeostasis in the adult (Cancilla *et al.*, *Kidney Int.*, 60:147-155, (2001) and Cancilla *et al.*, *Kidney Int.*, 56:2025-2039 (1999)). The FGFs are heparin-binding proteins, and interactions with cell-surface associated heparan sulfate proteoglycans have been reported to be important for FGF signal transduction. FGF molecules bind to a family of plasma membrane associated receptors, the fibroblast growth factor receptors (FGFR1, FGFR2, FGFR3, and FGFR4). Alternate mRNA splicing gives rise to distinct forms of FGFRs, which differ significantly in their ligand-binding profiles. The signaling complex at the cell surface is believed to be a ternary complex formed between two identical FGF ligands, two identical FGFR subunits, and either one or two heparan sulfate chains. In the case of FGF-23, a polypeptide called Klotho is believed to be involved in signal transduction. Twenty three fibroblast growth factors and four fibroblast growth factor receptors transduce a variety of biochemical changes in developing and adult tissues (Braun *et al.*, *Philos. Trans. R. Soc. Lond. B. Biol. Sci.*, 359:753-757 (2004); Steiling and Werner, *Curr. Opin. Biotechnol.*, 14:533-537 (2003); and Eswarakumar *et al.*, *Cytokine Growth Factor Rev.*, 16:139-149 (2005)).

### SUMMARY

This document relates to FGF-23 polypeptides, polypeptide fragments of an FGF-30 23 polypeptide, and methods for making and using such polypeptides and polypeptide fragments. For example, this document provides polypeptide fragments of an FGF-23

polypeptide that can be used to treat disorders associated with hyperphosphatemia such as chronic renal failure and hypoparathyroidism.

In general, one aspect of this document features a substantially pure polypeptide comprising, or consisting essentially of, the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:9 and lacking the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14. The polypeptide can contain one or more modifications. The polypeptide can be covalently attached to one or more oligomers. The polypeptide can be pegylated.

10 In another aspect, this document features a composition comprising, or consisting essentially of, a polypeptide comprising, or consisting essentially of, the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:9 and lacking the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14. The composition can be formulated for

15 oral or parenteral administration.

In another aspect, this document features a method for treating a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia. The method comprises, or consists essentially of, administering a polypeptide to a mammal under conditions wherein the severity of a symptom of the disorder is reduced, wherein the polypeptide comprises, or consists essentially of, the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:9 and lacks the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14. The mammal can be a human. The disorder can be selected from the group consisting of chronic renal failure, hypoparathyroidism, metabolic acidosis, and respiratory acidosis.

25 The polypeptide can be administered orally or parenterally.

In another aspect, this document features a method for reducing the serum phosphate level in a mammal. The method comprises, or consists essentially of, administering a polypeptide to a mammal under conditions wherein the serum phosphate level in the mammal is reduced, wherein the polypeptide comprises, or consists essentially of, the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:9 and lacks the sequence set forth in SEQ

ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14.

In another aspect, this document features a method for increasing phosphate excretion in a mammal. The method comprises, or consists essentially of, administering a polypeptide to a mammal under conditions wherein phosphate excretion is increased in  
5 the mammal, wherein the polypeptide comprises, or consists essentially of, the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:2, SEQ ID NO:3, SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:9 and lacks the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14.

Unless otherwise defined, all technical and scientific terms used herein have the  
10 same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which this invention pertains. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used to practice the invention, suitable methods and materials are described below. All publications, patent applications, patents, and other references mentioned herein are incorporated by reference in their entirety. In case of conflict, the  
15 present specification, including definitions, will control. In addition, the materials, methods, and examples are illustrative only and not intended to be limiting.

The details of one or more embodiments of the invention are set forth in the accompanying drawings and the description below. Other features, objects, and advantages of the invention will be apparent from the description and drawings, and from  
20 the claims.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS**

Figure 1 contains graphs plotting excretion of sodium (FE Na) and phosphate (FE Pi) in rats infused with full length recombinant FGF-23 polypeptide, FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub>  
25 polypeptide, FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub> polypeptide, FGF-23<sub>(184-251)</sub> polypeptide, FGF-23<sub>(206-251)</sub> polypeptide, or FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub> polypeptide. The solute excretion in period C1 (control) was subtracted form the value in the experimental period (C2). An \* indicates a significant difference, C1 compared to C2, paired T test, p<0.05. Data are expressed as mean ± SEM.

30 Figure 2 is a graph plotting serum phosphate levels of *Fgf-23*<sup>-/-</sup> mice before and after i.p. injection of vehicle (saline), FGF-23 R176Q polypeptide, or FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub>

polypeptide. NS = not significant; \*\* = P<0.01.

Figure 3 is a graph plotting percent phosphate uptake in opossum kidney (OK) cells that were mock-treated (control) or treated with the indicated amounts of FGF-23 polypeptide and FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub> polypeptide. An \* indicates statistically significant differences, experimental vs. control, non-paired T test, p<0.05. Data are expressed as mean ± SEM.

Figure 4 contains fluorescence photomicrographs of OK cells expressing a V5-tagged Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi IIa transporter that were analyzed by immunohistochemistry for the presence of the transporter on the cell surface following treatment with FGF-23, FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub>, parathyroid hormone<sub>(1-34)</sub> polypeptide (PTH<sub>(1-34)</sub> polypeptide), or PTH<sub>(13-34)</sub> polypeptide, or with a vehicle or antibody control.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

This document provides methods and materials related FGF-23 polypeptides, polypeptide fragments of an FGF-23 polypeptide, and methods for making and using such polypeptides and polypeptide fragments. An FGF-23 polypeptide can be from any species including, without limitation, dogs, cats, horses, bovine, sheep, monkeys, and humans. Amino acid sequences for FGF-23 polypeptides can be as set forth in GenBank gi accession numbers 10119774, 10119772, and 18543369 (see, also, accession numbers BAB13477, BAB13478, and NP\_570110). Nucleic acid sequences that encode an FGF-23 polypeptide can be as set forth in GenBank gi accession numbers 15055547, 110625790, and 18543368 (see, also, accession numbers NM\_020638, NM\_022657, and NM\_130754). A polypeptide fragment of an FGF-23 polypeptide can be any length, for example, between 22 amino acid residues and 76 amino acid residues (e.g., between 22 and 75 amino acid residues, between 22 and 70 amino acid residues, between 30 and 76 amino acid residues, or between 35 and 76 amino acid residues). Examples of such fragments include the polypeptides set forth in Table 1 and SEQ ID NOs:2-4, SEQ ID NO:6, and SEQ ID NOs:8-9.

Table 1: Fragments of FGF-23 polypeptides

| Name of | Amino Acid Sequence |
|---------|---------------------|
|---------|---------------------|

| <b>Polypeptide</b>                |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub></b> | 176-RHTRSAEDDSERDPLNVLKPRARMTPAPASCSQELPSA<br>EDNSPMASDPLGVVRGGRVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:2) |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub></b> | 180-SAEDDSERDPLNVLKPRARMTPAPASCSQELPSAED<br>NSPMASDPLGVVRGGRVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:3)     |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(184-251)</sub></b> | 184-DSERDPLNVLKPRARMTPAPASCSQELPSAEDNSPMA<br>SDPLGVVRGGRVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:4)         |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub></b> | 180-SAEDDSERDPLNVLKPRARMTPAPAS-205<br>(SEQ ID NO:6)   |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(176-205)</sub></b> | 176-RHTRSAEDDSERDPLNVLKPRARMTPAPAS-205<br>(SEQ ID NO:8)   |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(184-205)</sub></b> | 184-DSERDPLNVLKPRARMTPAPAS-205<br>(SEQ ID NO:9)   |

A polypeptide fragment of an FGF-23 polypeptide can lack an amino acid sequence set forth in Table 2. For example, an FGF-23 polypeptide fragment can have the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:8 and lack the amino acid sequence set forth in any of SEQ ID NOS:10-15. In some cases, an FGF-23 polypeptide fragment can have the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 and lack the amino acid sequence set forth in any of SEQ ID NOS:10-15.

**Table 2: Amino acid sequences**

| <b>SEQ ID NO:</b> | <b>Amino Acid Sequence</b>                     |
|-------------------|--|
| 10                | CSQELPSAEDNSPMASDPLGVVRGGRVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI |
| 11                | PSAEDNSPMASDPLGVVRGGRVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI      |
| 12                | SPMASDPLGVVRGGRVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI            |
| 13                | RVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI                          |
| 14                | PEGCRPFAKFI                                    |
| 15                | CRPFAKFI                                       |

10

The polypeptides and polypeptide fragments provided herein can be substantially pure. The term "substantially pure" as used herein with reference to a polypeptide means the polypeptide is substantially free of other polypeptides, lipids, carbohydrates, and nucleic acid with which it is naturally associated. A substantially pure polypeptide can be any polypeptide that is removed from its natural environment and is at least 60 percent

pure. A substantially pure polypeptide can be at least about 65, 70, 75, 80, 85, 90, 95, or 99 percent pure. Typically, a substantially pure polypeptide will yield a single major band on a non-reducing polyacrylamide gel. A substantially pure polypeptide can be a chemically synthesized polypeptide.

5 Any method can be used to obtain a substantially pure polypeptide provided herein. For example, common polypeptide purification techniques such as affinity chromatography and HPLC as well as polypeptide synthesis techniques can be used to obtain an FGF-23 polypeptide or a fragment of an FGF-23 polypeptide (e.g., an FGF-23<sub>(176-205)</sub> polypeptide). In addition, any material can be used as a source to obtain a  
10 substantially pure polypeptide. For example, tissue from wild-type or transgenic animals can be used as a source material. In some cases, tissue culture cells engineered to over-express a particular polypeptide can be used to obtain substantially pure polypeptide. In some cases, a polypeptide can be engineered to contain an amino acid sequence that allows the polypeptide to be captured onto an affinity matrix. For example, a tag such as  
15 c-myc, hemagglutinin, polyhistidine, or Flag™ tag (Kodak) can be used to aid polypeptide purification. Such tags can be inserted anywhere within the polypeptide including at either the carboxyl or amino termini, or in between. Other fusions that can be used include enzymes that aid in the detection of the polypeptide, such as alkaline phosphatase.  
20 An FGF-23 polypeptide or polypeptide fragment provided herein can contain one or more modifications. For example, an FGF-23 polypeptide fragment can be modified to be pegylated or acylated, or to contain additional amino acid sequences such as an albumin sequence (e.g., a human albumin sequence). In some cases, an FGF-23 polypeptide fragment can be a fusion polypeptide that contains a fragment of an albumin  
25 sequence (e.g., a human albumin sequence). In some cases, an FGF-23 polypeptide fragment can be covalently attached to oligomers, such as short, amphiphilic oligomers that enable oral administration or improve the pharmacokinetic or pharmacodynamic profile of a conjugated FGF-23 polypeptide fragment. The oligomers can comprise water soluble PEG (polyethylene glycol) and lipid soluble alkyls (short chain fatty acid polymers). See, for example, International Patent Application Publication No. WO  
30 2004/047871. In some cases, an FGF-23 polypeptide fragment can be fused to the Fc

domain of an immunoglobulin molecule (e.g., an IgG1 molecule) such that active transport of the fusion polypeptide across epithelial cell barriers via the Fc receptor occurs. In some cases, a polypeptide provided herein can contain chemical structures such as ε-aminohexanoic acid; hydroxylated amino acids such as 3-hydroxyproline, 4-hydroxyproline, (5R)-5-hydroxy-L-lysine, allo-hydroxylysine, and 5-hydroxy-L-norvaline; or glycosylated amino acids such as amino acids containing monosaccharides (e.g., D-glucose, D-galactose, D-mannose, D-glucosamine, and D-galactosamine) or combinations of monosaccharides. In some cases, a polypeptide provided herein such as a polypeptide fragments provided herein (e.g., an FGF-23<sub>(176-205)</sub> polypeptide) can be a cyclic polypeptide.

A polypeptide provided herein can contain one or more amino acid additions, subtractions, or substitutions relative to another polypeptide (e.g., a wild-type FGF23 polypeptide). Such polypeptides can be prepared and modified as described herein. Amino acid substitutions can be conservative amino acid substitutions. Conservative amino acid substitutions are, for example, aspartic acid/glutamic acid as acidic amino acids; lysine/arginine/histidine as basic amino acids; leucine/isoleucine, methionine/valine, alanine/valine as hydrophobic amino acids; and serine/glycine/alanine/threonine as hydrophilic amino acids. Conservative amino acid substitution also includes groupings based on side chains. For example, a group of amino acids having aliphatic side chains is glycine, alanine, valine, leucine, and isoleucine; a group of amino acids having aliphatic-hydroxyl side chains is serine and threonine; a group of amino acids having amide-containing side chains is asparagine and glutamine; a group of amino acids having aromatic side chains is phenylalanine, tyrosine, and tryptophan; a group of amino acids having basic side chains is lysine, arginine, and histidine; and a group of amino acids having sulfur-containing side chains is cysteine and methionine. For example, it is reasonable to expect that replacement of a leucine with an isoleucine or valine, an aspartate with a glutamate, a threonine with a serine, or a similar replacement of an amino acid with a structurally related amino acid will not have a major effect on the properties of the resulting polypeptide. Whether an amino acid change results in a functional polypeptide can readily be determined by assaying the specific activity of the polypeptide.

In some cases, amino acid substitutions can be substitutions that do not differ significantly in their effect on maintaining (a) the structure of the polypeptide backbone in the area of the substitution, (b) the charge or hydrophobicity of the molecule at the target site, or (c) the bulk of the side chain. Naturally occurring residues are divided into 5 groups based on common side-chain properties: (1) hydrophobic: norleucine, methionine, alanine, valine, leucine, isoleucine; (2) neutral hydrophilic: cysteine, serine, threonine; (3) acidic: aspartic acid, glutamic acid; (4) basic: asparagine, glutamine, histidine, lysine, arginine; (5) residues that influence chain orientation: glycine, proline; and (6) aromatic: tryptophan, tyrosine, phenylalanine. In some cases, non-conservative 10 substitutions can be used. A non-conservative substitution can include exchanging a member of one of the classes described herein for another.

This document also provides nucleic acid molecules having a sequence that encodes any of the polypeptides provided herein. For example, this document provides nucleic acid molecules that encode an FGF-23 polypeptide or a polypeptide fragment of 15 an FGF-23 polypeptide. In some cases, a nucleic acid molecule provided herein can encode an FGF-23<sub>(176-205)</sub> polypeptide.

The term "nucleic acid" as used herein encompasses both RNA and DNA, including cDNA, genomic DNA, and synthetic (e.g., chemically synthesized) DNA. The nucleic acid can be double-stranded or single-stranded. Where single-stranded, the 20 nucleic acid can be the sense strand or the antisense strand. In addition, nucleic acid can be circular or linear.

The term "isolated" as used herein with reference to nucleic acid refers to a naturally-occurring nucleic acid that is not immediately contiguous with both of the sequences with which it is immediately contiguous (one on the 5' end and one on the 3' 25 end) in the naturally-occurring genome of the organism from which it is derived. For example, an isolated nucleic acid can be, without limitation, a recombinant DNA molecule of any length, provided one of the nucleic acid sequences normally found immediately flanking that recombinant DNA molecule in a naturally-occurring genome is removed or absent. Thus, an isolated nucleic acid includes, without limitation, a 30 recombinant DNA that exists as a separate molecule (e.g., a cDNA or a genomic DNA fragment produced by PCR or restriction endonuclease treatment) independent of other

sequences as well as recombinant DNA that is incorporated into a vector, an autonomously replicating plasmid, a virus (e.g., a retrovirus, adenovirus, or herpes virus), or into the genomic DNA of a prokaryote or eukaryote. In addition, an isolated nucleic acid can include a recombinant DNA molecule that is part of a hybrid or fusion nucleic acid sequence.

The term "isolated" as used herein with reference to nucleic acid also includes any non-naturally-occurring nucleic acid since non-naturally-occurring nucleic acid sequences are not found in nature and do not have immediately contiguous sequences in a naturally-occurring genome. For example, non-naturally-occurring nucleic acid such as an engineered nucleic acid is considered to be isolated nucleic acid. Engineered nucleic acid can be made using common molecular cloning or chemical nucleic acid synthesis techniques. Isolated non-naturally-occurring nucleic acid can be independent of other sequences, or incorporated into a vector, an autonomously replicating plasmid, a virus (e.g., a retrovirus, adenovirus, or herpes virus), or the genomic DNA of a prokaryote or eukaryote. In addition, a non-naturally-occurring nucleic acid can include a nucleic acid molecule that is part of a hybrid or fusion nucleic acid sequence.

It will be apparent to those of skill in the art that a nucleic acid existing among hundreds to millions of other nucleic acid molecules within, for example, cDNA or genomic libraries, or gel slices containing a genomic DNA restriction digest is not to be considered an isolated nucleic acid.

In some cases, an isolated nucleic acid molecules provided herein can be at least about 12 bases in length (e.g., at least about 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 25, 30, 40, 50, 60, 100, 250, 500, 750, 1000, 1500, 2000, 3000, 4000, or 5000 bases in length) and hybridize, under hybridization conditions, to the sense or antisense strand of a nucleic acid having a sequence that encodes the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9. Such a nucleic acid can contain the following nucleic acid sequence: 5'-GACTCGGAGCGGG-GACCCCTGAACGTGCTGAAGCCCCGGGCCGGATGACCCGGCCCCGGCCT CC-3' (SEQ ID NO:16). The hybridization conditions can be moderately or highly stringent hybridization conditions. In some cases, such nucleic acid molecules can be molecules that do not hybridize to the sense or antisense strand of a nucleic acid that consists only of the nucleic acid sequence that encodes the amino acid sequence set forth

in SEQ ID NO:10, 11, 12, 13, 14, or 15. Examples of nucleic acid sequences that encode the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, 11, 12, 13, 14, or 15 are located at the appropriate portion of the 3' end of the sequence set forth in GenBank® gi number 10119773 (see, also, GenBank® accession number AB037973).

5 For the purpose of this document, moderately stringent hybridization conditions mean the hybridization is performed at about 42°C in a hybridization solution containing 25 mM KPO<sub>4</sub> (pH 7.4), 5X SSC, 5X Denhart's solution, 50 µg/mL denatured, sonicated salmon sperm DNA, 50% formamide, 10% Dextran sulfate, and 1-15 ng/mL probe (about 5x10<sup>7</sup> cpm/µg), while the washes are performed at about 50°C with a wash solution  
10 containing 2X SSC and 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate.

Highly stringent hybridization conditions mean the hybridization is performed at about 42°C in a hybridization solution containing 25 mM KPO<sub>4</sub> (pH 7.4), 5X SSC, 5X Denhart's solution, 50 µg/mL denatured, sonicated salmon sperm DNA, 50% formamide, 10% Dextran sulfate, and 1-15 ng/mL probe (about 5x10<sup>7</sup> cpm/µg), while the washes are  
15 performed at about 65°C with a wash solution containing 0.2X SSC and 0.1% sodium dodecyl sulfate.

An isolated nucleic acid molecule provided herein can be obtained using any method including, without limitation, common molecular cloning and chemical nucleic acid synthesis techniques. For example, PCR can be used to obtain an isolated nucleic  
20 acid molecule containing a nucleic acid sequence sharing similarity to sequences that encode the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9. PCR refers to a procedure or technique in which target nucleic acid is amplified in a manner similar to that described in U.S. Patent No. 4,683,195, and subsequent modifications of the procedure described therein. Generally, sequence information from the ends of the region of interest or  
25 beyond are used to design oligonucleotide primers that are identical or similar in sequence to opposite strands of a potential template to be amplified. Using PCR, a nucleic acid sequence can be amplified from RNA or DNA. For example, a nucleic acid sequence can be isolated by PCR amplification from total cellular RNA, total genomic DNA, and cDNA as well as from bacteriophage sequences, plasmid sequences, viral  
30 sequences, and the like. When using RNA as a source of template, reverse transcriptase can be used to synthesize complementary DNA strands.

An isolated nucleic acid molecule provided herein can be obtained by mutagenesis. For example, an isolated nucleic acid containing a sequence that encodes the amino acid sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 can be mutated using common molecular cloning techniques (e.g., site-directed mutagenesis). Possible mutations 5 include, without limitation, additions, subtractions, and substitutions, as well as combinations of additions, subtractions, and substitutions.

This document also provides host cells containing at least one of the isolated nucleic acid molecules provided herein. Such cells can be prokaryotic and eukaryotic cells. It is noted that cells containing an isolated nucleic acid molecule provided herein 10 are not required to express a polypeptide. In addition, the isolated nucleic acid molecule can be integrated into the genome of the cell or maintained in an episomal state. Thus, host cells can be stably or transiently transfected with a construct containing an isolated nucleic acid molecule provided herein.

Host cells can contain an exogenous nucleic acid molecule that encodes a 15 polypeptide provided herein (e.g., a polypeptide containing an amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:9). Such host cells can express the encoded polypeptide.

Any methods can be used to introduce an isolated nucleic acid molecule into a cell *in vivo* or *in vitro*. For example, calcium phosphate precipitation, electroporation, heat shock, lipofection, microinjection, and viral-mediated nucleic acid transfer are 20 common methods that can be used to introduce an isolated nucleic acid molecule into a cell. In addition, naked DNA can be delivered directly to cells *in vivo* as described elsewhere (U.S. Patent Number 5,580,859 and U.S. Patent Number 5,589,466 including continuations thereof). Further, isolated nucleic acid molecules can be introduced into cells by generating transgenic animals.

25 Any methods can be used to identify cells containing an isolated nucleic acid molecule provided herein. Such methods include, without limitation, PCR and nucleic acid hybridization techniques such as Northern and Southern analysis. In some cases, immunohistochemistry and biochemical techniques can be used to determine if a cell contains a particular isolated nucleic acid molecule by detecting the expression of a 30 polypeptide encoded by that particular nucleic acid molecule.

As described herein, the polypeptides provided herein as well as compositions

containing one or more of such polypeptides can be used to treat a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia. Any route of administration (e.g., oral or parenteral administration) can be used to administer a polypeptide or composition provided herein (e.g., a composition containing one or more of the polypeptides provided herein) to a  
5 mammal. For example, a composition can be administered orally or parenterally (e.g., a subcutaneous, intramuscular, intraorbital, intracapsular, intraspinal, intrasternal, or intravenous injection). Compositions containing a polypeptide provided herein can contain additional ingredients such as those described in U.S. Patent No. 6,818,619. Such additional ingredients can be polypeptides or non-polypeptides (e.g., buffers). In  
10 addition, the polypeptides within a composition provided herein can be in any form such as those described in U.S. Patent No. 6,818,619.

Before administering a composition provided herein to a mammal, the mammal can be assessed to determine whether or not the mammal has a need for a treatment of a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia. After identifying a mammal as having a  
15 need for a treatment of a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia, the mammal can be treated with a composition provided herein. For example, a composition containing one or more polypeptides provided herein can be administered to a mammal in any amount, at any frequency, and for any duration effective to achieve a desired outcome (e.g., to reduce serum phosphate levels in a mammal, to increase phosphate excretion in a  
20 mammal, or to treat a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia).

An effective amount of a composition can be any amount that reduces serum phosphate levels in a mammal, increases phosphate excretion in a mammal, or treats a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia in a mammal without producing significant toxicity to the mammal. If a particular mammal fails to respond to a particular amount,  
25 then the amount can be increased by, for example, ten fold. After receiving this higher concentration, the mammal can be monitored for both responsiveness to the treatment and toxicity symptoms, and adjustments made accordingly. The effective amount can remain constant or can be adjusted as a sliding scale or variable dose depending on the mammal's response to treatment.

30 The frequency of administration can be any frequency that that reduces serum phosphate levels in a mammal, increases phosphate excretion in a mammal, or treats a

disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia in a mammal without producing significant toxicity to the mammal. For example, the frequency of administration can be from about four times a day to about once every other month, or from about once a day to about once a month, or from about once every other day to about once a week. In addition, the  
5 frequency of administration can remain constant or can be variable during the duration of treatment. As with the effective amount, various factors can influence the actual frequency of administration used for a particular application. For example, the effective amount, duration of treatment, route of administration, and severity of the disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia may require an increase or decrease in administration  
10 frequency.

An effective duration of administration can be any duration that reduces serum phosphate levels in a mammal, increases phosphate excretion in a mammal, or treats a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia in a mammal without producing significant toxicity to the mammal. The effective duration can vary from several days to several  
15 weeks, months, or years. In general, the effective duration can range in duration from several days to several months. Typically, an effective duration can range from about one to two weeks to about 36 months. Prophylactic treatments can be typically longer in duration and can last throughout an individual mammal's lifetime.

Multiple factors can influence the actual effective duration used for a particular treatment or prevention regimen. For example, an effective duration can vary with the frequency of administration, amount administered, route of administration, and severity of the disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia.  
20

After administering a composition provided herein to a mammal, the mammal can be monitored to determine whether or not serum phosphate concentrations have  
25 decreased.

In some cases, after administering a composition provided herein to a mammal, the mammal can be monitored to determine the serum level of a polypeptide provided herein. Any appropriate method can be used to measure serum levels of a polypeptide provided herein including, without limitation, mass spectrometry and immunological  
30 methods such as ELISA. An antibody used in an immunological assay can be, without limitation, a polyclonal, monoclonal, human, humanized, chimeric, or single-chain

antibody, or an antibody fragment having binding activity, such as a Fab fragment, F(ab') fragment, Fd fragment, fragment produced by a Fab expression library, fragment comprising a VL or VH domain, or epitope binding fragment of any of the above. An antibody can be of any type, (e.g., IgG, IgM, IgD, IgA or IgY), class (e.g., IgG1, IgG4, or 5 IgA2), or subclass. In addition, an antibody can be from any animal including birds and mammals. For example, an antibody can be a human, rabbit, sheep, or goat antibody. Such an antibody can be capable of binding specifically to a polypeptide provided herein.

Antibodies can be generated and purified using any suitable methods known in the art. For example, monoclonal antibodies can be prepared using hybridoma, 10 recombinant, or phage display technology, or a combination of such techniques. In some cases, antibody fragments can be produced synthetically or recombinantly from a gene encoding the partial antibody sequence. In some cases, an antibody fragment can be enzymatically or chemically produced by fragmentation of an intact antibody. An antibody directed against a polypeptide provided herein can bind the polypeptide at an 15 affinity of at least  $10^4$  mol<sup>-1</sup> (e.g., at least  $10^5$ ,  $10^6$ ,  $10^7$ ,  $10^8$ ,  $10^9$ ,  $10^{10}$ ,  $10^{11}$ , or  $10^{12}$  mol<sup>-1</sup>).

The invention will be further described in the following examples, which do not limit the scope of the invention described in the claims.

## EXAMPLES

### Example 1 – Protein and peptide synthesis

Synthesis of full-length recombinant human FGF-23<sub>(25-251)</sub> polypeptide was carried out using bacterial protein expression methods. Human FGF-23<sub>(25-251)</sub> polypeptide was expressed in pET28a(+), *E. coli* Rosetta 2(DE3) cells (Novagen/EMD, San Diego, CA), at 20°C in the presence of the inducer, isopropyl β-D-thiogalactoside 25 (IPTG; 0.1 mM). Cells were lysed at 4°C in lysis buffer (20 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 1.0 M NaCl, 10 mM beta-mercaptoethanol, pH 7.0) with 4 mM phenylmethanesulfonyl fluoride (PMSF) using an ice jacketed Bead Beater (Biospec Industries, Inc., Bartlesville, OK; eight cycles of 20 seconds on/ two minutes off). The cell lysate was centrifuged at 20,000 x g for 30 minutes at 4°C. The supernatant was stirred at 4°C with 15 mL nickel 30 chelating sepharose (Amersham/GE Healthcare Bio-Sciences Corp., Piscataway, NJ) for two hours. The resin was pelleted by centrifugation, extensively washed, and then finally

washed on a column with one liter lysis buffer at 4°C over 12 hours. Protein was eluted with lysis buffer containing 1 M imidazole (80 mL) and dialyzed against lysis buffer before being loaded onto a five mL HisTrap column (Amersham/GE Healthcare). Protein was eluted with an imidazole gradient (0-1 M) in lysis buffer. Fractions were  
5 analyzed by SDS-PAGE and Coomassie blue/silver stain and by immunoblots (PhastTransfer; Amersham/GE Healthcare) using an affinity purified polyclonal antibody against human FGF-23 polypeptide, and a goat anti-rabbit HRP secondary antibody (Dako, Carpinteria, CA), visualized by chemiluminescence (Roche, Indianapolis, IN). Fractions containing N-terminal 6x His human FGF-23<sub>(25-251)</sub> polypeptide were combined  
10 and dialyzed against 20 mM Na<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 5 mM beta-mercaptoethanol, pH 7.0. The dialyzed fractions were loaded onto an HR5/5 Mono S column (Amersham/GE Healthcare) and eluted with a NaCl gradient (0-1 M). Mono S fractions were analyzed by SDS-PAGE/immunoblotting. Fractions containing highly purified human FGF-23<sub>(25-251)</sub> polypeptide (about 0.25 M NaCl) were pooled and further analyzed by N-terminal protein  
15 sequencing. FGF-23<sub>(25-251)</sub> polypeptide was dialyzed against N<sub>2</sub>-purged 0.9 % NaCl at 4°C before animal infusions.

The synthesis of five FGF-23 polypeptides (Table 3) was performed by the Mayo Peptide Synthesis Facility (Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN) by solid phase methods on an ABI 433A peptide synthesizer (Applied Biosystems Inc., Foster City, CA) using  
20 protocols described elsewhere for the synthesis of human amyloid-β peptides (Poduslo *et al.*, *Biochemistry*, 43:6064-6075 (2004)). Briefly, FGF-23 polypeptides (0.1 mmol scale) were synthesized on NovaSyn TGA resin (Calbiochem-Novabiochem, San Diego, CA) using HBTU activation of N<sup>α</sup>-9-fluoroenylmethoxy-carbonyl (Fmoc) amino acid derivatives and synthesis protocols provided by the instrument's manufacturer. After  
25 completion of synthesis, all polypeptides were cleaved from the TGA resin support using 10 mL of a solution of 87.5% trifluoroacetic acid (TFA), 5% water, 5% phenol, and 2.5% triisopropylsilane (v/v/wt/v) for two hours at 22°C. The cleaved peptides were then precipitated in 40 mL cold tert-butylmethyl ether and purified by reverse phase HPLC on a C<sub>18</sub> Jupiter column (250 mm x 21.2 mm, Phenomenex Corp.) using a binary gradient of  
30 0.1% aqueous TFA containing 5% acetonitrile (buffer A) and 0.1% aqueous TFA containing 80% acetonitrile (buffer B). The calculated mass for each FGF-23 synthetic

polypeptide was verified by electrospray ionization mass spectrometry using a MSQ single quadrupole mass analyzer (Thermo Electron Corp., San Jose, CA) using the following parameters: start *m/z* of 500, stop *m/z* of 2000, dwell time of 0.1 msec at 40 scans/minute. Each spectrum was deconvoluted into a single mass using Bioworks

5 Brower provided by Thermo Electron. All polypeptides were of the appropriate molecular mass (Table 3).

**Table 3: Sequences and molecular weights of FGF-23 polypeptides**

| Name of Polypeptide                          | Amino Acid Sequence   | Molecular Weight   |
|--|---|--|
| <b>Full-length FGF-23<sub>(25-251)</sub></b> | 25-YPNASPLLGSSWGGLIHLHYTA<br>TARN SYHLQIHKNGHVDGAPHQ<br>TIYSALMIRSEDAGFVVITGVMSR<br>RYLCMDFRGNIFGSHYFDPENCR<br>FQHQTL ENGYDVYHSPQYHFLVS<br>LGRAKRAFLPGMNPPPYSQFLSR<br>RNEIPLIHFNTPIPRRHTRSAEDDS<br>ERDPLNVLKPRARMTPAPASC SQ<br>ELPSAEDNSPMASDPLGVVRGGR<br>VNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:1) | 25331<br><br>28744 with tag from construct: GSSH HHHH<br>HHSSGLVPRGSHMA SMTGGQQMGRGS (SEQ ID NO:7) |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub></b>            | 176-RH TRSAEDDSERDPLNVLKPR<br>ARMT PAPASC SQELPSAEDNSPMAS<br>SDPLGVVRGG RVNTHAGGTGPEG<br>CRPFAKFI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:2)  | 8070   |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub></b>            | 180-SAE DD SERDPLNVLKPRARMT<br>PAPASC SQELPSAEDNSPMASDPL<br>GVVRGG RVNTHAGGTGPEGCRP<br>AKFI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:3)  | 7519   |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(184-251)</sub></b>            | 184-DSERDPLNVLKPRARMT PAPA<br>SCSQELPSAEDNSPMASDPLGVVR<br>GGRVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAKFI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:4)  | 7117   |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(206-251)</sub></b>            | 206-CSQELPSAEDNSPMASDPLGV<br>VRGG RVNTHAGGTGPEGCRPFAK<br>FI-251<br>(SEQ ID NO:5)  | 4714   |
| <b>FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub></b>            | 180-SAE DD SERDPLNVLKPRARMT<br>PAPAS-205<br>(SEQ ID NO:6)   | 2824   |

Example 2 – Animal studies

Male Sprague Dawley rats weighing 300 g were purchased from Harlan Sprague Dawley Inc. (Madison WI). They were fed a standard rodent diet containing 0.7% phosphate and 0.5% calcium. All animals were fasted overnight prior to the experiment.

5 On the day of the experiment, rats were anesthetized with an intraperitoneal injection of 100-150 mg/kg body weight of 5-sec-butyl-ethyl-2-thiobarbituricacid (Inactin, Byk Gulden Konstanz, Hamburg, Germany). The rats were placed on a heated table to maintain body temperature between 36-38°C. After a tracheostomy, a PE 50 catheter was placed in the left carotid artery to monitor mean arterial blood pressure (MAP) and to collect blood samples. Catheters were also placed in the left and right jugular veins for infusions. A solution containing 2% inulin in 0.9% NaCl plus 4.5% BSA was infused at a rate of 1.2 mL/hour in one catheter, and 0.9% NaCl was infused in the other catheter at a rate of 1.2 mL/hour. A catheter (PE 90) was placed in the bladder for urine collection.

10 Acute infusion studies were performed using the following seven different groups of animals.

15

*Group 1:* Vehicle Time control (n=8). After a ninety-minute recovery period, one thirty- minute urine sample was taken (C1) and a blood sample was taken. One hour later a second 60-minute clearance was taken (C2).

20 *Group 2:* Effect of acute infusion of full length FGF-23 polypeptide (1.24 nmol/kg/hour, n=8). This protocol is identical to group 1 except that after the control collections, full-length recombinant FGF-23 polypeptide was added to the 0.9% saline infusion to deliver 1.24 nmol/kg/hour of full length FGF-23 polypeptide. After one hour of infusion, a sixty-minute clearance was taken.

25 *Group 3:* Effect of acute infusion of FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> polypeptide (1.24 nmol/kg/hour, n=8). This protocol is identical to group 2 except for the sequence of the infused polypeptide.

*Group 4:* Effect of acute infusion of FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub> polypeptide (1.24 nmol/kg/hour, n=8). This protocol is identical to group 2 except for the sequence of the infused polypeptide.

*Group 5:* Effect of infusion of FGF-23<sub>(184-251)</sub> polypeptide (1.24 nmol/kg/hour, n=8). This protocol is identical to group 2 except for the sequence of the infused polypeptide.

5      *Group 6:* Effect of infusion of FGF-23<sub>(206-251)</sub> polypeptide (1.24 nmol/kg/hour, n=6). This protocol is identical to group 2 except for the sequence of the infused polypeptide.

10     *Group 7:* Effect of infusion of FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub> polypeptide (1.24 nmol/kg/hour, n=6). This protocol is identical to group 2 except for the sequence of the infused polypeptide.

15     Plasma and urine phosphate concentrations were determined using the method of Chen (Chen *et al.*, *Anal Chem.*, 28:1756-1758 (1956)). Inulin concentrations in plasma and urine were determined using the anthrone method (Führ *et al.*, *Klin. Wochenschr.*, 33.:729-730 (1955)). Sodium concentrations in urine were determined by ion selective electrode (EasyLyte Plus Analyzer, Medica Corp., Bedford, MA). Calcium concentrations were measured using atomic absorption spectrometry (Kumar *et al.*, *Biochemistry*, 15:2420-2423 (1976)) with a Perkin Elmer Model 3300 Atomic Absorption Spectrometer (Perkin Elmer, Boston, MA). Serum 1 $\alpha$ ,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D concentrations were measured using an RIA kit (Diasorin, Stillwater, MN).

20     Statistically significant differences between groups were evaluated by Student's t-test for comparison between two groups or by one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA) followed by Tukey's test for multiple comparisons. All values were expressed as mean  $\pm$  SE. A p value less than 0.05 was considered to be statistically significant.

25     Data for groups 1-7, performed to determine the effect of the acute intravenous infusion of equimolar amounts of FGF-23 fragments in normal rats are summarized in Table 4. The glomerular filtration rate (GFR) was stable throughout the experiment in all groups studied. In the vehicle-infused group, the fractional excretion of sodium (FE Na) and fractional excretion of phosphate (FE Pi) were stable throughout the experiment (Figure 1). The acute intravenous infusion of full length recombinant FGF-23 polypeptide significantly increased the FE Pi from 14 $\pm$ 3 to 32 $\pm$ 5% (p<0.001) and FE Na from 0.3 $\pm$ 0.1 to 0.7 $\pm$ 0.2% (p = 0.01). FE Ca increased from 4.1 $\pm$ 1.2% to 10.0 $\pm$ 2.3% (p = 0.039). Infusion of FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> polypeptide significantly increased the FE Pi from

15±2 to 33±2% ( $p<0.0001$ ) and the FE Na from 0.90±0.15 to 1.21±0.17 ( $p = 0.020$ ).

Infusion of FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub> polypeptide significantly increased the FE Pi from 14±3 to 26±3% ( $p = 0.0004$ ) and FE Na from 0.20±0.07 to 0.80±0.17% ( $p = 0.014$ ). Infusion of FGF-23<sub>(184-251)</sub> polypeptide significantly increased FE Pi from 16±3 to 28±3% ( $p =$

5 0.0006) and FE Na from 0.3±0.1 to 0.6±0.16%,  $p<0.05$  ( $p = 0.006$ ). Likewise, infusion of FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub> polypeptide significantly increased FE Pi from 10±2 to 20±2% ( $p = 0.004$ ) and FE Na from 0.4±0.1 to 1.0±0.2%, ( $p = 0.03$ ). In contrast, infusion of FGF-23<sub>(206-251)</sub> polypeptide did not increase either phosphate or sodium excretion.

10 **Table 4: Effect on renal function of infusing equimolar amounts of FGF-23 polypeptides**

|                                   | GFR<br>(mL/min) |           | FE <sub>Pi</sub> (%) |          | FE <sub>Na</sub> (%) |               | P <sub>Pi</sub> (mM) |               | MAP (mmHg) |           |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------|----------------------|----------|----------------------|---------------|----------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
|                                   | C               | E         | C                    | E        | C                    | E             | C                    | E             | C          | E         |
| Time Control (n=8)                | 3.1 ± 0.6       | 3.6 ± 0.5 | 21 ± 4               | 26 ± 4   | 0.15 ± 0.05          | 0.13 ± 0.04   | 1.32 ± 0.05          | 1.49 ± 0.07   | 141 ± 5    | 131 ± 5 * |
| FGF-23 Full Length (n=8)          | 3.5 ± 0.3       | 3.3 ± 0.5 | 14 ± 3               | 32 ± 5 * | 0.26 ± 0.14          | 0.76 ± 0.15 * | 1.53 ± 0.08          | 1.49 ± 0.10   | 146 ± 4    | 143 ± 5   |
| FGF-23 <sub>(176-251)</sub> (n=8) | 3.5 ± 0.5       | 3.1 ± 0.4 | 15 ± 2               | 33 ± 2 * | 0.87 ± 0.15          | 1.21 ± 0.17 * | 1.91 ± 0.13          | 1.91 ± 0.14   | 117 ± 8    | 122 ± 8   |
| FGF-23 <sub>(180-251)</sub> (n=8) | 4.5 ± 0.4       | 4.2 ± 0.4 | 14 ± 3               | 26 ± 3 * | 0.17 ± 0.07          | 0.76 ± 0.17 * | 1.51 ± 0.10          | 1.42 ± 0.09   | 150 ± 4    | 150 ± 5   |
| FGF-23 <sub>(184-251)</sub> (n=8) | 4.1 ± 0.3       | 4.3 ± 0.3 | 16 ± 3               | 28 ± 3 * | 0.27 ± 0.09          | 0.63 ± 0.16 * | 1.58 ± 0.07          | 1.46 ± 0.06 * | 133 ± 6    | 128 ± 5   |
| FGF-23 <sub>(206-251)</sub> (n=6) | 4.0 ± 0.2       | 3.1 ± 0.2 | 22 ± 5               | 29 ± 2   | 0.19 ± 0.04          | 0.22 ± 0.05   | 1.34 ± 0.06          | 1.46 ± 0.06   | 144 ± 4    | 126 ± 4 * |
| FGF-23 <sub>(180-205)</sub> (n=6) | 4.0 ± 0.5       | 4.5 ± 0.3 | 10 ± 2               | 20 ± 2 * | 0.39 ± 0.11          | 1.01 ± 0.21 * | 1.52 ± 0.09          | 1.54 ± 0.07   | 151 ± 0    | 145 ± 7   |

C = Control Clearance

E = Experimental Clearance

GFR = Glomerular Filtration Rate

FE<sub>Pi</sub> = Fractional Excretion of Phosphate

FE<sub>Na</sub> = Fractional Excretion of Sodium

P<sub>Pi</sub> = Plasma Phosphate Concentration

MAP = Mean Arterial Pressure.

15

\* Indicates a significant difference ( $p<0.05$  paired T test); data are expressed as mean  $\pm$  SE

The results of these studies demonstrate that acute intravenous infusions of  
5 equimolar doses of full length FGF-23 polypeptide and FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> polypeptide result  
in similar increases in phosphate excretion. Infusion of FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub>, FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub>,  
and FGF-23<sub>(184-251)</sub> polypeptides also increases phosphate excretion significantly. Of  
interest, these bioactive polypeptides also increase sodium excretion when administered  
over the short-term. With long term-administration, the sodium wasting is no longer  
10 seen.

Chronic animal studies were performed to determine the effect of chronic (72  
hour) administration of FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> polypeptide (1.24 nmol/kg/hour, n=5) or vehicle  
(PBS + 0.1% BSA, n=6) on serum phosphate and 1 $\alpha$ , 25 (OH)<sub>2</sub>D concentrations. Rats  
received an intraperitoneal injection of FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> polypeptide in 0.5 mL of normal  
15 saline every 12 hours for three days. At the end of three days, the animals were  
anesthetized and a terminal blood sample was taken.

Chronic (72 hour) administration of FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> polypeptide or vehicle  
resulted in serum phosphate concentrations of  $1.85\pm0.12$  mM and  $2.19\pm0.11$  mM  
( $p=0.062$ ). FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> treatment significantly decreased serum 1 $\alpha$ ,25(OH)<sub>2</sub>D  
20 concentrations ( $76\pm11$  pg/mL) compared to the vehicle treated rats ( $114\pm7$  pg/mL,  $p <$   
 $0.05$ ). FGF-23<sub>(176-251)</sub> polypeptide given intraperitoneally also reduced serum Pi  
concentrations in *Fgf-23*<sup>-/-</sup> mice.

To further examine the *in vivo* phosphaturic activity of the smallest FGF-23  
fragment, 0.2 nmoles of FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub> polypeptide were injected twice intraperitoneally  
25 into *Fgf-23*<sup>-/-</sup> mice. FGF-23 R176Q polypeptide was similarly injected into the mutant  
mice as a positive control, and saline was injected as a vehicle control. *Fgf-23*<sup>-/-</sup> animals  
were generated as reported elsewhere (Sitara *et al.*, *Matrix Biol.*, 23:421-432 (2004)). To  
determine the *in vivo* effects of the C-terminal fragment FGF23 180-205 in the absence of  
endogenous FGF-23 activity, equimolar amounts (0.2 nmoles) of FGF-23 R176Q  
30 polypeptide, FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub> polypeptide, and vehicle (saline) were injected twice  
intraperitoneally into *Fgf-23*<sup>-/-</sup> mice at 0 and 8 hours. Blood was obtained by tail  
bleeding or cheek pouch puncture of 3- to 6-week-old *Fgf-23*<sup>-/-</sup> animals, 8 hours after the

second injection (at 16 hours). Serum levels of phosphate were determined in pre-and post-injection mice using the Stanbio LiquiUV kit (Stanbio Laboratory, Boerne, TX).

The results of these experiments indicate that the C-terminal FGF-23<sub>(180-205)</sub> polypeptide fragment was bioactive, as reflected by a significant decrease in serum phosphate levels in *Fgf-23*<sup>-/-</sup> mice ( $14.64 \pm 0.51$  pre-injection vs.  $10.95 \pm 0.62$  post-injection;  $p < 0.01$ ; Figure 2). These data suggest that the C-terminal fragment of the FGF-23 polypeptide, containing only amino acid residues 180-205, could regulate phosphate homeostasis.

10                   Example 3 – In vitro studies

FGF-23 and FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub> polypeptide directly inhibited radiolabeled phosphorus uptake in the standard in vitro assay using opossum proximal tubular epithelial cells (OK; Figure 3). The OK cell Pi uptake assay was performed as described by Bowe *et al.* (*Biochem Biophys Res Commun.*, 284:977-981 (2001)).

15                   To assess the mechanism by which these agents altered phosphate transport, the surface expression of an epitope tagged sodium phosphate transporter, NaPi IIa-V5, was examined. An OK cell line stably expressing a V5-tagged Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi IIa transporter was generated as described elsewhere (Berndt *et al.*, *Pflugers Arch.*, 451:579-587 (2006)). The presence of the transporter on the cell surface of OK- Na<sup>+</sup>-Pi-IIa-V5 cells was  
20                   carried out using immunohistochemical methods and reagents described elsewhere (Berndt *et al.*, *Pflugers Arch.*, 451:579-587 (2006)).

25                   Immunofluorescent data confirmed that the anti-V5 antibody readily detected plasma membrane localized NaPi IIaV5 whereas there was no significant staining in the absence of the primary antibody (Figures 4a and 4d). Three hour treatment with FGF-23 or FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub> polypeptide resulted in significant decreases in the amount of NaPiIIa-V5 detected (Figure 4b and 4c). Similar decreases in immunodetection of NaPiIIa-V5 occurred after incubation with PTH 1-34 (Figure 4e) but not the inactive PTH 13-34 (Figure 4f).

30                   The *in vitro* studies demonstrate that similar to PTH, FGF-23 and FGF-23<sub>(180-251)</sub> polypeptide inhibit sodium-phosphate transport by reducing the amount of plasma membrane localized NaPi IIa.

**OTHER EMBODIMENTS**

It is to be understood that while the invention has been described in conjunction with the detailed description thereof, the foregoing description is intended to illustrate and not limit the scope of the invention, which is defined by the scope of the appended claims. Other aspects, advantages, and modifications are within the scope of the following claims.

**WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:**

1. A substantially pure polypeptide comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 and lacking the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14.
2. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide contains one or more modifications.
3. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is covalently attached to one or more oligomers.
4. The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein said polypeptide is pegylated.
5. A composition comprising a polypeptide comprising the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 and lacking the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14.
6. The composition of claim 5, wherein said composition is formulated for oral or parenteral administration.
7. A method for treating a disorder associated with hyperphosphatemia, said method comprising administering a polypeptide to a mammal under conditions wherein the severity of a symptom of said disorder is reduced, wherein said polypeptide comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 and lacks the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein said mammal is a human.

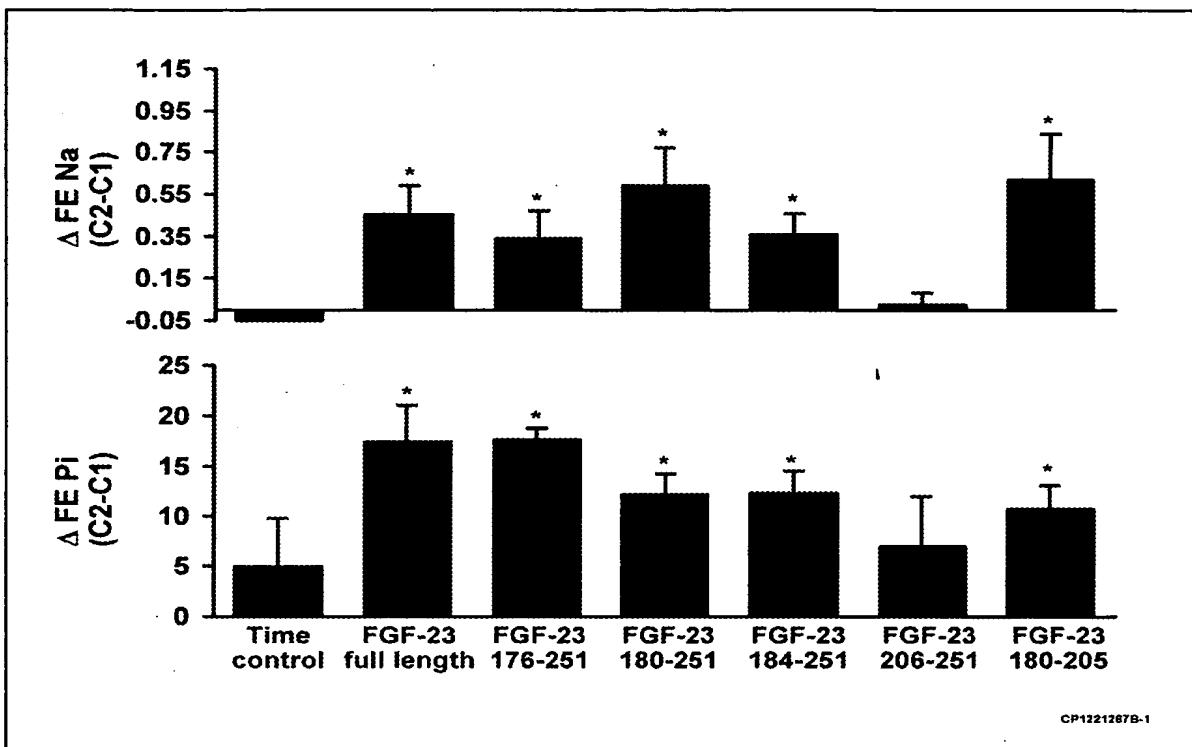
9. The method of claim 7, wherein said disorder is selected from the group consisting of chronic renal failure and hypoparathyroidism.

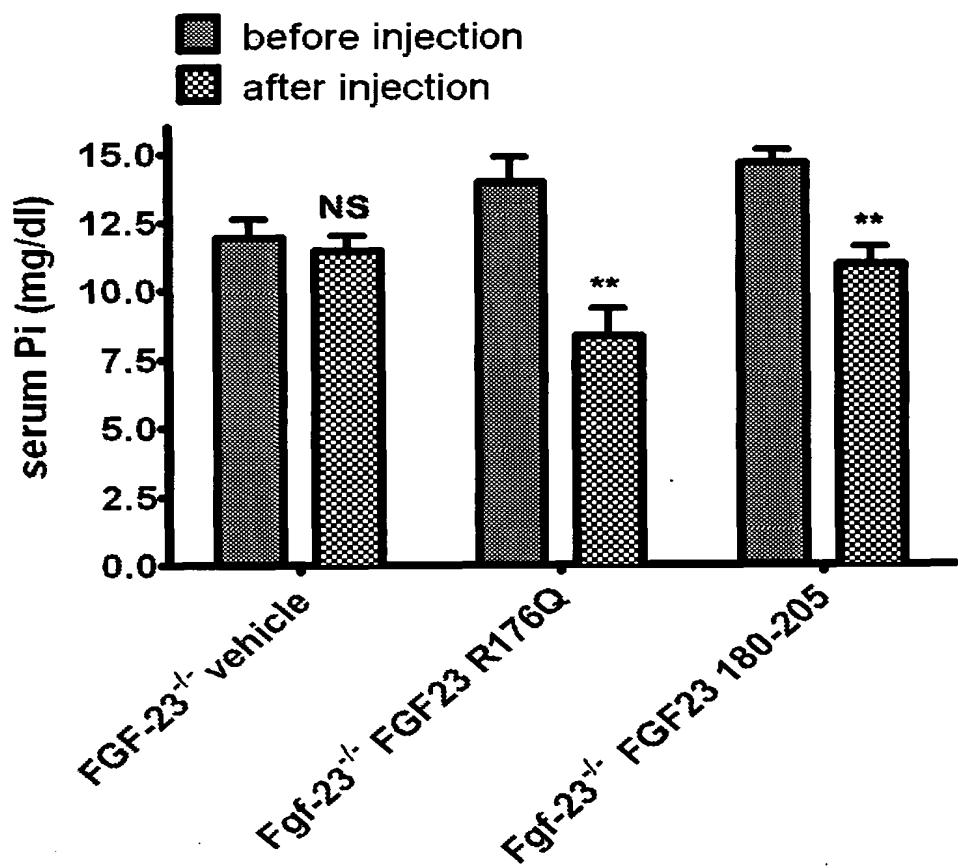
10. The method of claim 7, wherein said polypeptide is administered orally or parenterally.

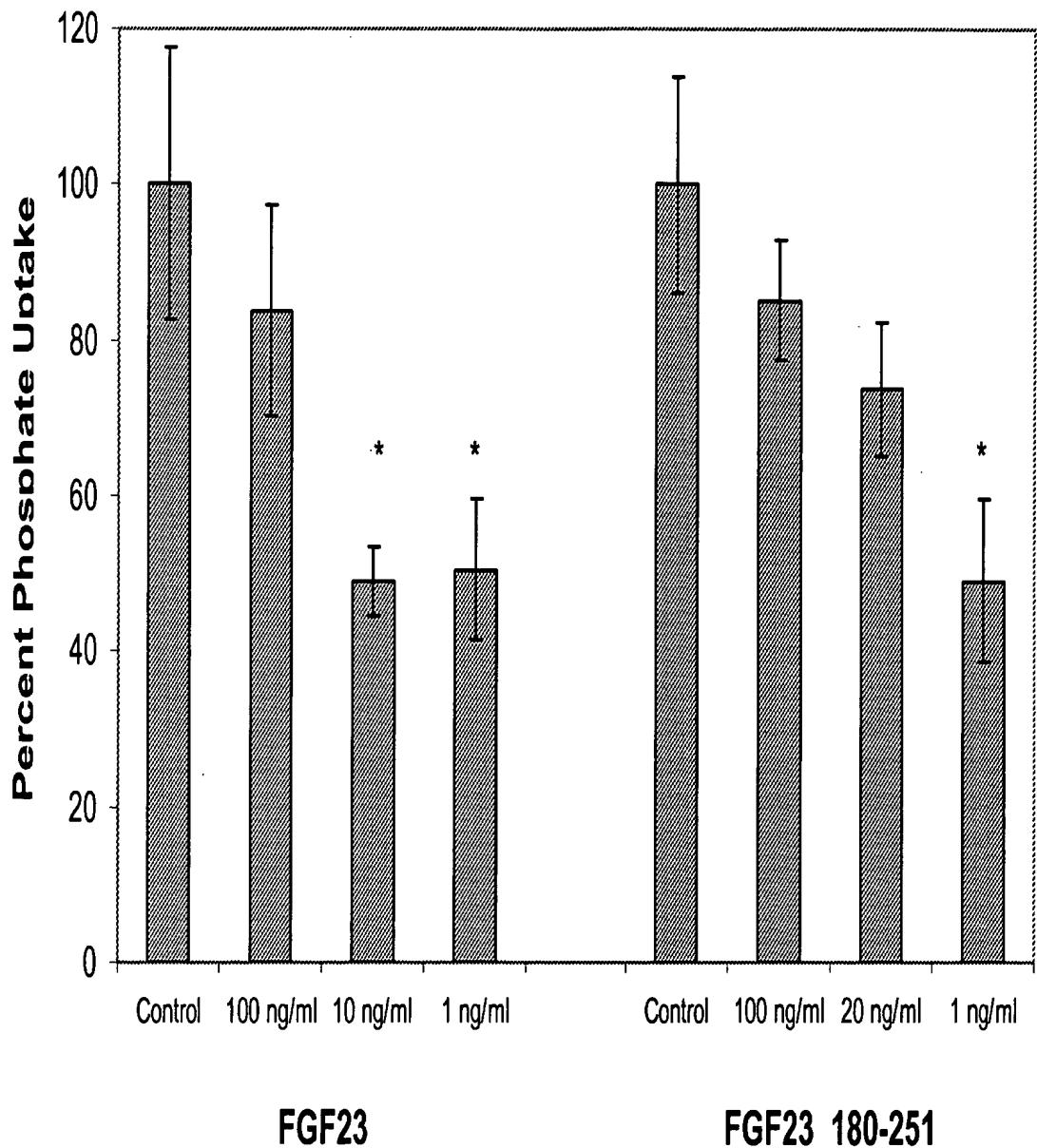
11. A method for reducing the serum phosphate level in a mammal, said method comprising administering a polypeptide to a mammal under conditions wherein said serum phosphate level in said mammal is reduced, wherein said polypeptide comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 and lacks the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14.

12. A method for increasing phosphate excretion in a mammal, said method comprising administering a polypeptide to a mammal under conditions wherein phosphate excretion is increased in said mammal, wherein said polypeptide comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:9 and lacks the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO:10, SEQ ID NO:11, SEQ ID NO:12, SEQ ID NO:13, or SEQ ID NO:14.

Figure 1



**Figure 2**



\*  $P < 0.05$

Figure 3

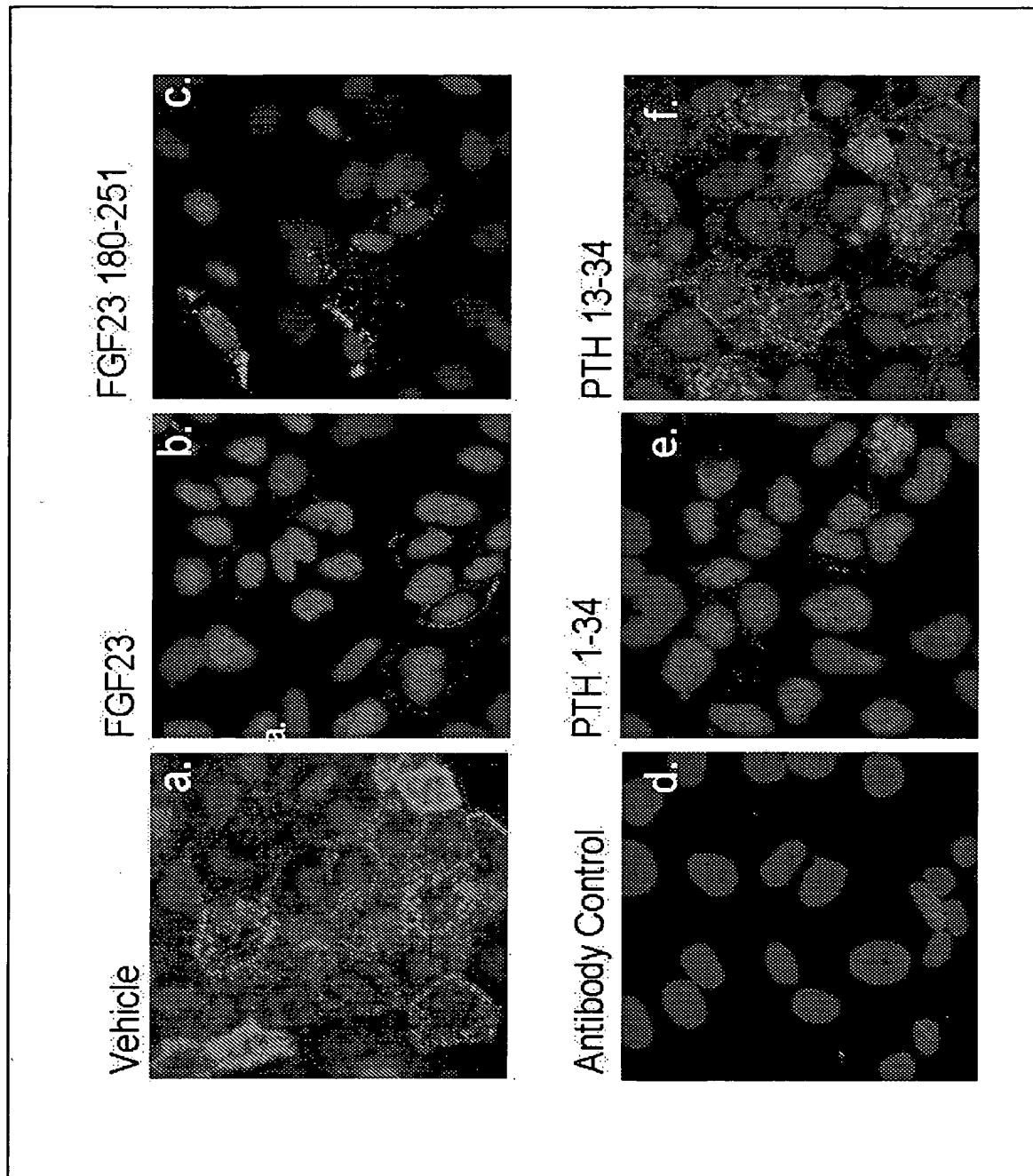


Figure 4

## INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US2008/051935

## A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

*C07K 16/00(2006.01)i*

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

## B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 8 : C07K 16/00, C07K 14/475

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)  
Pubmed, Esp@snnet, Delphion

## C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages   | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| P, X      | BERNDT, T. J. et al. 'Biological activity of FGF-23 fragments.' European Journal of Physiology(Pflugers Archive). Vol. 454(4), pp. 615-623 (27 February 2007). See the whole document. | 1-6                   |
| X         | BURNETT, S. M. et al. 'Regulation of C-terminal and intact FGF-23 by dietary phosphate in men and women.'  | 2-3                   |
| A         | Journal of Bone and Mineral Research. 21(8), pp. 1187-1196 (August 2006). See the abstract.  | 1, 4-6                |
| A         | KOBAYASHI, K. et al. 'Expression of FGF23 is correlated with serum phosphate level in isolated fibrous dysplasia.' Life Sciences. Vol. 78(20), pp. 2295-2301 (7 December 2005).        | 1-6                   |
| A         | BERNDT, T. J. et al. "phosphatonins" and the regulation of phosphorus homeostasis.' American Journal of Physiology-Renal Physiology. Vol. 289(6), pp. F1170-1182 (December 2005).      | 1-6                   |
| A         | BAUM, M. et al. 'Effect of fibroblast growth factor-23 on phosphate transport in proximal tubules.' Kidney International. Vol. 68(3), pp. 1148-1153 (September 2005).                  | 1-6                   |

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

## \* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&amp;" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

09 JUNE 2008 (09.06.2008)

Date of mailing of the international search report

09 JUNE 2008 (09.06.2008)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR



Korean Intellectual Property Office  
Government Complex-Daejeon, 139 Seonsa-ro, Seo-gu, Daejeon 302-701, Republic of Korea

Facsimile No. 82-42-472-7140

Authorized officer

KIM, JI YUN

Telephone No. 82-42-481-8288



**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

**PCT/US2008/051935****Box No. I Nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence(s) (Continuation of item 1.b of the first sheet)**

1. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international search was carried out on the basis of :

a. type of material

a sequence listing  
 table(s) related to the sequence listing

b. format of material

on paper  
 in electronic form

c. time of filing/furnishing

contained in the international application as filed  
 filed together with the international application in electronic form  
 furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search

2.  In addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table relating thereto has been filed or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that in the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.

3. Additional comments:

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

**PCT/US2008/051935****Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)**

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1.  Claims Nos.: 7-12  
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:  
Claims 7-12 pertain to methods for treatment of the human or animal body, thus relate to a subject-matter which International Searching Authority is not required to search under PCT Art. 17(2)(a)(i) and Rule 39.1(iv).
2.  Claims Nos.:  
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3.  Claims Nos.:  
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

**Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)**

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

1.  As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2.  As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3.  As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4.  No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

**Remark on Protest**

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.